

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY – LIBRARIES

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 6 [Thursday, May 2, 1889], page 1, column 5

Why Not a Public Library?

The Marquette Journal of last Monday contains an interesting description of Ishpeming's public library. The institution contains 3,405 catalogued books, comprising works of fiction, historical, biographical, scientific and poetical works, besides a generous supply of works on government, politics and political economy. Here is a library that is able to satisfy every seeker of knowledge or amusement, and accessible to the public every day and every evening. Besides the library of books a reading-room [*sic – reading room*] has also been recently established in connection with in [*sic – within*], and these public conveniences are thoroughly appreciated by the residents of Ishpeming. We gather from the article that this is all done through the liberality of the city.

Iron Mountain had a very excellent library before it was set off from Breitung township but with the division of township property this public luxury was of necessity turned over to the township authorities at Quinnesec. Since then a small school library has been obtained, which is accessible to the public certain days, but is designed more especially for the accommodation of the our [*sic*] public schools. The patronage the old township library had when located in this city is sufficient assurance that it was appreciated, and if there is a way for the city to provide this public convenience we believe it ought to be done, and if a reading-room [*sic – reading room*] could also be added it would undoubtedly be the means of doing much good. There are young men in this city who would be glad of a public place in which to spend their leisure time, and it would have

a constant tendency to draw them away from places of evil associations.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 33 [Thursday, November 7, 1889], page 1, column 4

Our Only Vacant Building.

The small building formerly occupied as a township library building is rapidly going to ruin again, now that it is unoccupied. The boys have the glass front nearly knocked to flinders – one or two while lights left yet – the front door stands wide open, and at the present rate of destruction the building will possibly be of some value for kindling wood in the spring, but that is all. Better give it to some poor man to fix up for a dwelling than leave it as it is.